



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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### KENTUCKY DERBY WINNER RICH STRIKE BLAZES FIVE FURLONGS IN :59

**LOUISVILLE, Ky. (Monday, May 30, 2022)** – RED-TR Racing's Kentucky Derby (Grade I) winner **Rich Strike** dazzled fans Monday at Churchill Downs with a five-furlong move in :59 between Races 5-6 in his final major preparation toward the \$1.5 million Belmont Stakes (GI) on June 11.

With rider **Gabe Lagunes** in the saddle, Rich Strike clipped off eighth-mile fractions of :11.80, :23.20 and :34.80, according to Churchill Downs clocker **John Robertson**. The 80-1 upset winner of the \$3 million Kentucky Derby presented by Woodford Reserve galloped out six furlongs in 1:12 and completed seven furlongs in 1:26.

Trainer **Eric Reed** watched the work from the backside so he could watch his prized colt gallop out and supervise him coming off the track.

"He got away real well and worked exactly like we wanted him to do," Reed said. "The track was a little quicker since it was in the afternoon but it was exactly what we wanted to do. Yesterday he was starting to relax in the morning. After some time away from the races that's sort of what we've seen from him. There's no doubt about his confidence. We've seen him come off the track in mornings more playful. It's like he knows what he did in the Derby. I still don't think we've seen the best of him."

Rich Strike is scheduled to leave early Tuesday morning to compete in the 1 ½-mile Belmont Stakes, the third jewel of racing's Triple Crown. Reed and owner **Rick Dawson** opted to skip the second leg, the \$1.5 million Preakness, to give Rich Strike more time between starts. The former \$30,000 claimer has been based at Churchill Downs' Barn 17 for nearly two weeks.

"We're going on with the year with no regrets," Reed said. "We did what was best for Ritchie and I'm confident we made the right decision."

Depending on the result in the Belmont, Rich Strike could return to Churchill Downs later this spring.

**FIVE-TIME WINNER GRAY'S FABLE TOPS SATURDAY'S GRADE III, \$200,000 ARLINGTON STAKES** – **Steve Goldfine, Kari Provost** and **Jeff Zlonis'** five-time winner **Gray's Fable**, who narrowly prevailed in the \$160,000 Opening Verse four weeks ago, tops a field of six that entered the \$200,000 Arlington Stakes (Grade III) on Saturday at Churchill Downs.

The Arlington Stakes, which will be run for the first time at Churchill Downs, will go as Race 8 of 11. Post time is 4:22 p.m. (all times Eastern). The first race for the day dubbed as "Stephen Foster Preview Day" will go 12:45 p.m.

The Arlington Stakes will share the Saturday spotlight with the \$200,000 Regret (GIII), \$200,000 Aristides (Listed), \$200,000 Blame (Listed), \$200,000 Shawnee (Listed) and \$200,000 Audubon.

Now trained by **Brian Lynch**, Gray's Fable previously competed in the care of **Roger Attfield** primarily in Florida and Canada. The 7-year-old son of Gio Ponti narrowly held off **Hidden Stash** in the Opening Verse. As a 6-year-old, Gray's Fable won the \$100,000 Appleton (GIII) at Gulfstream Park. **Julien Leparoux** will ride from post No. 6.

Another top horse that entered the Arlington Stakes is **Amerman Racing's Admission Office**, who is also campaigned by Lynch. The 7-year-old gelding by Point of Entry last competed 15 months ago at Gulfstream Park but was a Grade III winner as a 5-year-old in the Louisville Stakes at Churchill Downs. The four-time winner will be ridden by **John Velazquez** from the rail.

Here's the complete field for the Arlington Stakes from the rail out (with jockey and trainer): Admission Office (Velazquez, Lynch); **Floriform** (Tyler Gaffalione, Bill Mott); **Like the King** (Luis Saez, Mark Casse); **Get Smokin** (Javier Castellano, Casse); **Field Pass** (Ricardo Santana Jr., Mike Maker); Gray's Fable (Leparoux, Lynch).

Wagering is available for the Arlington Stakes and every race from Churchill Downs on [www.TwinSpires.com](http://www.TwinSpires.com), the official wagering provider of Churchill Downs Incorporated and the Kentucky Derby.

**IMPROVING WALKATHON SEARCHES FOR FIRST GRADED STAKES WIN IN REGRET** – **Whitham Thoroughbreds'** homebred filly **Walkathon** will attempt to win her third-consecutive race and first graded stakes score in Saturday's \$200,000 Regret (Grade III) at Churchill Downs.

The 1 1/8-mile Regret, run over the Matt Winn Turf Course, was carded as Race 5 of 11 with a post time of 2:45 p.m.

Trained by **Ian Wilkes**, Walkathon broke her maiden by two lengths in late April at Keeneland in her first turf try. The daughter of Twirling Candy returned May 14 at Churchill where she bested 10 rivals by 1 ¼ lengths in a first-level allowance event. She's poised to return in two weeks for Saturday's Regret and will break from the rail with **Julien Leparoux** in the saddle.

The Regret features an extremely competitive field of six 3-year-old fillies including **Don't Tell My Wife Stables** and **Keith Desormeaux's** \$250,000 Bourbonette Oaks winner **Candy Raid**, **Klaravich Stables'** graded stakes placed **McKulick (GB)** and **Michael Tabor's** allowance winner **Beside Herself**.

Here's the Regret field from the rail out (with jockey and trainer): Walkathon (Leparoux, Wilkes); Beside Herself (Luis Saez, Todd Pletcher); McKulick (GB) (Tyler Gaffalione, Chad Brown); **Kneeships** (John Velazquez, Tom Amoss); **Lola Flo** (James Graham, Lynn Cash); and **Candy Raid** (Rafael Bejarano, Keith Desormeaux).

Wagering is available for the Regret Stakes and every race from Churchill Downs on [www.TwinSpires.com](http://www.TwinSpires.com), the official wagering provider of Churchill Downs Incorporated and the Kentucky Derby.

**DEFENDING ARISTIDES CHAMPION BANGO TAKES ON GRADED STAKES WINNERS BOB'S EDGE, ST. MATTHEWS WINNER TOP GUNNER** – One of the most competitive races on Saturday's 11-race "Stephen Foster Preview Day" card could be the \$200,000 Aristides which features defending champion **Bango**, graded stakes winner **Bob's Edge** and recent St. Matthews Stakes hero **Top Gunner**.

The six furlong Aristides goes as Race 9 with a post time of 4:55 p.m.

Trained by **Greg Foley**, Bango won last year's Aristides by a half-length over **Long Range Toddy** and **Sir Alfred James**. He's set to face Long Range Toddy once again in this year's event. Most recently, the 5-year-old son of Congrats finished fourth in the \$160,000 St. Matthews Overnight Stakes which was his first start in nearly six months. Bango has recorded six of his eight wins beneath the historic Twin Spires. Leading rider **Tyler Gaffalione** has the call from post 1.

**Michael, Patricia** and **Taylor Freeny** and **Jennifer Grayson's** Bob's Edge is another top contender in the Aristides after his victory in the March 19, \$200,000 Whitmore Stakes (GIII) at Oaklawn. Trained by **Larry Jones** and ridden from post 5 with **Adam Beschizza**, the fleet-footed Bob's Edge cruised to a 2 3/4-length win to begin his 4-year-old season in the \$150,000 King Cotton. He entered the Aristides following a disappointing fourth-place effort behind top sprinter **Jackie's Warrior** in the \$500,000 Count Fleet Handicap (GIII).

**4 G Racing's** St. Matthews Stakes winner Top Gunner will attempt to notch his third consecutive win for trainer **John Ortiz**. The 5-year-old son of Into Mischief has only missed the board in three starts and has amassed a record of 14-5-3-3 with \$344,493 in purse earnings. Ortiz claimed Top Gunner for \$30,000 from trainer **John Sadler** last March at Oaklawn. **Rey Gutierrez** will have the return call and drew post 6.

Here's the complete field for the Aristides from the rail out (with jockey and trainer): Bango (Gaffalione, Foley); **Miles Ahead** (Joe Talamo, Paul McGee); **Pyron** (John Velazquez, Al Stall Jr.); **Necker Island** (Mitchell Murrill, Chris Hartman); Bob's Edge (Beschizza, Jones); Top Gunner (Gutierrez, Ortiz); **Jalen Journey** (Ricardo Santana Jr., Steve Asmussen); and **Long Range Toddy** (Luis Saez, Dallas Stewart).

Wagering is available for the Aristides Stakes and every race from Churchill Downs on [www.TwinSpires.com](http://www.TwinSpires.com), the official wagering provider of Churchill Downs Incorporated and the Kentucky Derby.

**GRADE I CIGAR MILE WINNER AMERICANREVOLUTION TAKES ON BEN ALI WINNER SCALDING IN \$200,000 BLAME – CHC Inc** and **WinStar Farm's** 2021 Cigar Mile (Grade I) winner **Americanrevolution** is poised to make his 4-year-old debut against **Grandview Stable**, **Cheyenne Stable** and **LNJ Foxwoods'** \$300,000 Ben Ali (Grade III) winner **Scalding** in Saturday's \$200,000 Blame (Listed), the local prep for the \$750,000 Stephen Foster (GII).

Saturday's 11-race stakes bonanza from Churchill Downs will get underway at 12:45 p.m. The Blame will go as Race 10 with a post time of 5:26 p.m.

Americanrevolution, trained by **Todd Pletcher**, was originally probable for the \$200,000 Commentator at Belmont but the race did not fill. The chestnut son of Constitution finished a half-length better than **Following Sea** in the Dec. 4 Cigar at Aqueduct. Previously, New York-bred Americanrevolution demolished state-bred competition in the \$300,000 Empire Classic by 11 3/4 lengths. Americanrevolution will be ridden by **Florent Geroux** from post No. 8.

Scalding, trained by **Shug McGaughey III**, will ride a four-race win streak into the Blame after winning the Ben Ali by 1 1/4 lengths over **Dynamic One** and **Proxy**. The 4-year-old colt by Nyquist broke his maiden on Jan. 5 and has been nothing short of brilliant since. McGaughey sent Scalding to Tampa in February where he dusted a first-level allowance field by 5 1/4 lengths as the 3-5 favorite and recorded his first stakes victory by a neck over top older horse **Cody's Wish** in the \$100,000 Challenger Stakes. Veteran rider **Javier Castellano**, who has ridden Scalding in all of his previous six starts, will have the call from post No. 6.

The Blame field also features **Charles Fipke's** graded stakes winner **Title Ready**; **Repole Stable**, **Phipps Stable** and **St. Elias Stable's** Ben Ali runner-up Dynamic One; and **Godolphin's** three-time winner **Proxy**.

Here's the complete field for the Blame from the rail out (with jockey and trainer): Proxy (Luis Saez, Mike Stidham); **Super Stock** (Corey Lanerie, Steve Asmussen); **Title Ready** (John Velazquez, Dallas Stewart); **Militarist** (Rafael Bejarano, Carlo Vaccarezza); Dynamic One (Tyler Gaffalione, Todd Pletcher); Scalding (Castellano, McGaughey); **Santos Dumont** (Mitchell Murrill, Chris Hartman); and Americanrevolution (Geroux, Pletcher).

Wagering is available for the Blame Stakes and every race from Churchill Downs on [www.TwinSpires.com](http://www.TwinSpires.com), the official wagering provider of Churchill Downs Incorporated and the Kentucky Derby.

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**LA TROIENNE WINNER PAULINE'S PEARL RETURNS IN SHAWNEE STAKES** – Stonestreet Stable's \$750,000 La Troienne (Grade I) heroine **Pauline's Pearl** tops a compact field of six fillies and mares entered in Saturday's \$200,000 Shawnee Stakes (Listed) at Churchill Downs.

The 1 1/16-mile Shawnee Stakes, the local prep for the July 2, \$350,000 Fleur de Lis (GII), will go as Race 7 of 11 with a post time of 3:50 p.m.

The classy 4-year-old filly Pauline's Pearl held off 2021 Longines Kentucky Oaks (GI) winner **Shedaresthedevil** by a half-length in the La Troienne. The five-time winner, campaigned by Hall of Famer **Steve Asmussen**, started her campaign this year with a 3 3/4-length win in the \$400,000 Houston Ladies Classic (GIII) and was narrowly defeated by **Ce Ce** in the \$350,000 Azeri (GII). Pauline's Pearl has been ridden by **Joel Rosario** for all three starts in 2022 but will be ridden Saturday by **Luis Saez** from post No. 5.

Here's the field for the Shawnee from the rail out (with jockey and trainer): **Temper Time** (Ricardo Santana Jr., Dale Romans); **She's All Wolfe** (Francisco Arrieta, Donnie K. Von Hemel); **Ava's Grace** (David Cohen, Robertino Diodoro); **Army Wife** (Tyler Gaffalione, Mike Maker); Pauline's Pearl (Saez, Asmussen); and **Crazy Beautiful** (Brian Hernandez Jr., Kenny McPeck).

Wagering is available for the Shawnee Stakes and every race from Churchill Downs on [www.TwinSpires.com](http://www.TwinSpires.com), the official wagering provider of Churchill Downs Incorporated and the Kentucky Derby.

**GRADE III WINNER GRAND SONATA TOPS AUDUBON STAKES** – **Whisper Hill Farm's** \$100,000 Kitten's Joy (GIII) winner **Grand Sonata** headlines a field of 11 3-year-old turf specialists in Saturday's \$200,000 Audubon Stakes at Churchill Downs.

The 1 1/8-mile Audubon Stakes, run over the Matt Winn Turf Course, was carded as Race 11 of 11 with a post time of 5:58 p.m. First post is 12:45 p.m.

Trained by Hall of Famer **Todd Pletcher**, Grand Sonata recorded his first graded stakes score in the Feb. 5 Kitten's Joy at Gulfstream Park. The son of Medaglia d'Oro finished a game second behind **Sy Dog** in last month's \$400,000 Transylvania Stakes (GIII) at Keeneland. Grand Sonata will be ridden again by **Tyler Gaffalione** and will break from post No. 2.

Other top entrants in the Audubon include **Peter Brant's** impressive maiden winner **James Jones** and the turf debut of WinStar Farm and Siena Farm's 2021 Iroquois (GIII) winner **Major General**.

The complete Audubon field from the rail out (with jockey and trainer): **Spin Wheel** (Edgar Morales, Rusty Arnold II); Grand Sonata (Gaffalione, Pletcher); **Tallahatchiebridge** (Florent Geroux, Saffie Joseph Jr.); **Play Action Pass** (Corey Lanerie, Robert Medina); **Kitodan** (Gerardo Corrales, Eric Foster); **Red Run** (Julien Leparoux, Steve Asmussen); **Smokin' T** (John Velazquez, Shug McGaughey II); **Summer Anthem** (Javier Castellano, Mike Maker); James Jones (Ricardo Santana Jr., Chad Brown); **Speaking Scout** (Luis Saez, Graham Motion); and Major General (Brian Hernandez Jr., Pletcher).

Wagering is available for the Audubon Stakes and every race from Churchill Downs on [www.TwinSpires.com](http://www.TwinSpires.com), the official wagering provider of Churchill Downs Incorporated and the Kentucky Derby.

**CHURCHILL DOWNS LIVE AVAILABLE ON SMART TVs** – The **Churchill Downs LIVE** app is available free of charge on streaming services such as Amazon, Apple TV and Roku. Fans can download the Churchill Downs LIVE app for full access to a free HD live stream of the Churchill Downs simulcast signal and three additional angles including the saddling paddock.

Fans will get analysis each race day from expert handicapper/host **Joe Kristufek** who will be joined alongside **Kaitlin Free**, **James Scully**, **Scott Shapiro** and **Brandon Stauble**.

Wagering is available on [www.TwinSpires.com](http://www.TwinSpires.com), the official ADW of Churchill Downs Inc. and the Kentucky Derby.

**DOWN THE STRETCH** – **Julien Leparoux** was two wins away from 1,000 victories at Churchill Downs. He had calls in Races 4, 6 and 7 Monday. ... Multiple graded stakes winner **Farrell's** first foal, a 2-year-old fill by Medgalia d'Oro, has arrived in trainer **Wayne Catalano's** barn at Churchill Downs. Catalano, who trained eight-time winner Farrell, said, "She looks just like momma." ... An influx 2-year-olds are starting to arrive at Churchill Downs. In the last week, 135 2-year-olds have recorded published workouts at Churchill Downs.

### **MONDAY, MAY 30 (MEMORIAL DAY)**

- **Workout:** Kentucky Derby winner Rich Strike will breeze between Races 5-6 at approximately 3 p.m.
- **Promotion:** Military Appreciation Day – Free general admission for military; \$32 Millionaires Row or Skye Terrace
- **Racing:** 9 Races; Day 19 of 44
- **Dirt/Turf (Lane 4, 36 feet):** Fast/Firm
- **Gates Open:** 11:30 a.m.
- **First Race/Last Race:** 12:45-4:55 p.m.
- **Carryovers:**
  - Derby City 6 (\$61,041)
- **Featured Races:**
  - Race 4 (2:13 p.m.) – Mdn 120k, 3&cup, 1 1/16 M
  - Race 6 (3:18 p.m.) – OC 62500n2x, 3&cup, 5 1/2 F (T)
  - Race 7 (3:50 p.m.) – Alw 127000n1x, 3&cup, 7 F
  - Race 8 (4:22 p.m.) – \$200,000 Winning Colors (GIII), f&m, 6 F
  - Race 9 (4:55 p.m.) – Mdn 120k, 3&cup, 1 3/8 M (T)
- **Featured Simulcasts:**
  - SA 4 (5:47 p.m.) – \$400,000 Hollywood Gold Cup (GI), 3&cup, 1 1/4 M
  - SA 5 (6:18 p.m.) – \$500,000 Shoemaker Mile (GI), 3&cup, 1 M (T)
  - LS 12 (8:35 p.m.) – \$400,000 Steve Sexton Mile (GIII), 3&cup, 1 M
  - SA 10 (9:00 p.m.) – \$400,000 Gamely (GI), f&m, 1 1/8 M (T)
- **National Weather Service Forecast:** Sunny, 89.
- **Meet Leading Jockeys:** Tyler Gaffalione (19); Ricardo Santana Jr. (14); Brian Hernandez Jr. (13); Florent Geroux (12); Rafael Bejarano (9); Julien Leparoux (9)
- **Meet Leading Trainers:** Brad Cox (10); Brendan Walsh (8); Rusty Arnold (7); Steve Asmussen (7); Joe Sharp (7); Mike Maker (7); Kenny McPeck (7)
- **Meet Leading Owners:** Peter Brant (3); Godolphin LLC (3); Rigney Racing LLC (3); Silverton Hill LLC (3); Stonestreet Stables LLC (3); Gary and Mary West (3)
- **Tickets:** General Admission (\$7), Reserved Seating (\$10), Reserved Dining (\$42)
- **TV:** FS2 (12:30-6 p.m.)
- **Smart TV App:** Churchill Downs LIVE
- **Wager:** TwinSpire.com

### **THURSDAY, JUNE 2**

- **Promotion:** Twilight Thursday – \$2 select domestic can beer, live music (Mojothunder), food trucks (Sweet N Savory; All Thaid Up; Good Belly; Crave Street Kitchen; Favorville; and Lil Cheezers)
- **Scheduled Racing:** 8 Races; Day 20 of 44
- **Gates Open:** 4 p.m.
- **First Race/Last Race:** 5-8:23 p.m.
- **Featured Races:**
  - Race 2 (5:29 p.m.) – Mdn 120k, 2yo, 5 1/2 F
  - Race 8 (8:23 p.m.) – Alw 127000n1x, f&m, 7 F
- **National Weather Service Forecast:** Partly sunny, 79. 50% showers and thunderstorms.
- **Tickets:** General Admission (\$7), Reserved Seating (\$10), Reserved Dining (\$42)
- **TV:** FS2 (3-8:30 p.m.)
- **Smart TV App:** Churchill Downs LIVE
- **Wager:** TwinSpire.com

### **FRIDAY, JUNE 3**

- **Scheduled Racing:** 9 Races; Day 21 of 44
- **Gates Open:** 11:30 a.m.
- **First Race/Last Race:** 12:45-4:55 p.m.
- **Featured Races:**
  - Race 3 (1:43 p.m.) – Mdn 120k, f&m, 1 1/16 M (T)
  - Race 4 (2:13 p.m.) – Mdn 120k, 2yo f, 5 1/2 F
  - Race 6 (3:18 p.m.) – OC 62500n2x, 3&cup, 1 1/16 M (T)
  - Race 7 (3:50 p.m.) – OC 100000n3L, 3yo, 7 F
  - Race 8 (4:22 p.m.) – OC 80000n1x, 3yo f, 1 M
- **Featured Simulcasts:**
  - Pen 5 (7:10 p.m.) – \$150,000 Penn Oaks, 3yo f, 1 M (T)
  - Pen 6 (7:45 p.m.) – \$400,000 Penn Mile (GII), 3yo, 1 M (T)
- **National Weather Service Forecast:** Sunny, 78. 20% showers before 9 a.m.
- **Tickets:** General Admission (\$7), Reserved Seating (\$10), Reserved Dining (\$42)
- **TV:** FS2 (12:30-5:30 p.m.)
- **Smart TV App:** Churchill Downs LIVE
- **Wager:** TwinSpire.com
- **Radio:** “Inside Churchill Downs” on ESPN 680/105.7 (6-7 p.m.)

### **SATURDAY, JUNE 4 (STEPHEN FOSTER PREVIEW DAY)**

- **Scheduled Racing:** 11 Races; Day 22 of 44
- **Gates Open:** 11:30 a.m.
- **First Race/Last Race:** 12:45-5:58 p.m.
- **Featured Races:**
  - Race 5 (2:45 p.m.) – \$200,000 Regret (GIII), 3yo f, 1 1/8 M (T)
  - Race 7 (3:50 p.m.) – \$200,000 Shawnee (Listed), f&m, 1 1/16 M
  - Race 8 (4:22 p.m.) – \$200,000 Arlington (GIII), 4&cup, 1 1/16 M (T)
  - Race 9 (4:55 p.m.) – \$200,000 Aristides (Listed), 4&cup, 6 F
  - Race 10 (5:26 p.m.) – \$200,000 Blame (Listed), 4&cup, 1 1/8 M
  - Race 11 (5:58 p.m.) – \$200,000 Audubon, 3yo, 1 1/8 M (T)
- **Featured Simulcasts:** GII Pennine Ridge (Bel); GIII Desert Stormer (SA)
- **National Weather Service Forecast:** Sunny, 83.
- **Tickets:** General Admission (\$9), Reserved Seating (\$12), Reserved Dining (\$54)
- **TV:** FS2 (5-6:30 p.m.)
- **Smart TV App:** Churchill Downs LIVE
- **Wager:** TwinSpire.com

### **SUNDAY, JUNE 5 (FAMILY ADVENTURE DAY)**

- **Promotion:** Family Adventure Day presented by Kroger
- **Scheduled Racing:** 10 Races; Day 23 of 44
- **Gates Open:** 11:30 a.m.
- **First Race/Last Race:** 12:45-5:26 p.m.
- **Stakes Racing:** GIII, \$200,000 Old Forester Mint Julep
- **National Weather Service Forecast:** Mostly sunny, 86. 20% showers and thunderstorms.
- **Tickets:** General Admission (\$9), Reserved Seating (\$12), Reserved Dining (\$49)
- **TV:** FS1 (12:30-2 p.m.); FS2 (5-5:30 p.m.)
- **Smart TV App:** Churchill Downs LIVE
- **Wager:** TwinSpire.com

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